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Bay Area Family Reclaims Home From Renter Who 'Forced' Them Out 1 Year Ago



By **Ryan General**
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A family in the San Francisco Bay Area who were forced out by their tenant following a local pandemic shutdown order have finally reclaimed their home.

The stuff of nightmares: The Yang family endured a year-long battle with a renter who financially ruined them and forced them out of their single-family house on Norfolk Street in San Mateo.

- In an interview with [NBC's Investigative Unit](#), 23-year-old UC Berkeley student Alex Yang shared that his mother met the renter, a woman named Baiting Jiang online.

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- Needing help to pay her mortgage, the single mother of two agreed to let Jiang rent a room in their home.
- At the time, Yang was finishing his last year at the university so it was only his mom and his 12-year-old sister who lived under the same roof as Jiang.
- It soon became apparent that renting the room to Jiang was not a good idea.
- The issues were initially strange visitors coming over but things escalated into verbal arguments with both sides eventually accusing each other of harassment.
- Jiang allegedly flooded a bathroom intentionally, resulting in thousands of dollars in water damage.
- When the family's lawyer served Jiang a 30-day notice to vacate the house, she reportedly ignored the notice and responded with threats.
- The family tried to get the police involved multiple times, but the authorities allegedly dismissed their complaints as "a civil issue" which meant they could not interfere.

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When the pandemic hit: Due to COVID-19, their eviction case set for a March 2020 trial was halted and California courts delayed eviction cases to protect vulnerable tenants from being evicted.

- This fighting between the family and Jiang continued, eventually prompting a judge to grant restraining orders against both Jiang and the homeowner.
- In the past three months, local authorities responded to the home 31 times.
- Concerned with their mental health and safety, the family was left with no other choice but to vacate their own house.
- They ended up leaving their house and paying for a small room elsewhere, with Yang forced to sleep in his car across the street.
- Jiang, who hasn't paid rent money for months, chose to stay.

The nightmare ends: Baiting Jiang only agreed to finally leave the house days before both parties were scheduled to appear in court for an eviction hearing, according to the follow-up report by [NBC Bay Area](#).

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- Yang said the family was relieved upon receiving the news from their lawyer that they could finally reclaim their home.
- However, they expressed their concerns that Jiang would victimize another family.
- The family intends to pursue legal action against Jiang to demand compensation in legal costs and property damages.

Feature Image via [NBC Bay Area](#)

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